



have had plenty of room in a country school-house. And under the efforts of such power-holders, he would make his neighbors in the face, and seemed to say, "I do not believe the means are, we are dead!" And from the corner of the fence, where the audience sat, and from the shade of the apple-tree where the speakers stood, came the echo—dead! dead! dead! we are dead in silence!"—thinking, by the way, that the Era might revive many, if it were given a chance.

*Journalist, Strategic Country, New York, Aug. 28.—The cause of freedom in this vicinity seems to be onward. Everybody thinks that our nomination of Hale is a capital one, so that we may thank God, take courage, and go to work with renewed energy.*

## WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1852.

"FATHER RONAN'S ANGEL" an allegory from the pen of ELIZA L. SPRATT, published on the first page of the *Era*, contains passages of exquisite beauty. The great Truth taught is an old one—what Truth is not old—but the illustrations are her own, and quite unique. Miss Spratt herself will make her appearance in our columns more frequently.

### RECOLLECT.

That after the 30th of this month, the postage of the *Era*, if paid in advance, for any distance, will be only 26 cents a year, or 6½ cents quarterly.

AND RECOLLECT, too, that payment of postage in advance may be made at the office where the paper is delivered.

### CAMPAIN CLUBS.

At the earnest solicitation of numerous friends, and hoping to enlarge still more rapidly the circle of anti-slavery readers, and that they may be kept fully advised of the political doings during the present campaign, we have concluded to offer the *Era* to clubs for four months, which will embrace the whole period of the campaign, and the time during which the official results will be made public on the following terms:

*The Union* will be sent from the 1st of September to the 1st of January, for Five Dollars, to the person making up the club being entitled to an extra copy.

### THE CANVAS.

In our recent travels in New York and New England, we should not have known from any indications of popular feeling, that a Presidential election was pending. No enthusiasm prevailed among the masses, no anxiety was manifested as to the result of the contest; nobody seemed to imagine that the price of stocks, the course of trade, the great interests of the country, would be more affected by the success of one Party than of the other. The general impression was, that there was no longer any issue of importance between them; that the questions which had divided them were substantially settled, and that whatever might be the popular decision on the claims of their candidates, the policy of the country would remain unchanged.

This prevailing indifference was not shared by those who had taken a special interest in the question of Slavery. It was felt by them that on this question both the old parties had labored ground adversely to Northern Sentiment. The liberal Democrat was humbled at the position of his party, disgusted with the plotters and cold-towners the candidates; the liberal Whig could no longer plead that his was the true Anti-Slavery party, and whenever he would speak for his candidates, was gagged at his acceptance of the miserable Pro-Slavery platform.

Such was the condition of the political mind at the North recently. It may undergo a change. Members of Congress returning to their homes may kindle a little excitement among their constituents, but it will be hard work.

A contest between two Parties for place and power, where no political question is involved, has no feature to command it to be intelligent, sober-minded men. It is without dignity; it naturally runs into low partisanship, and its appropriate weapons are misrepresentations and personalities. In the absence of any real topics relating to important interests, false reports and inflammatory appeals are constantly put forth, or the whole contest is made to turn upon the relative personal claims of candidates. Look at the manner in which the present campaign is carried on by managers in the Whig and Democratic Parties. Their first effort is, to propitiate the Slave Power, a sectional, exceptional, and odious interest by striving to demonstrate the superior devotion of their respective candidates to its will and policy. Then we have disquisitions on the comparative bravery of Scott and Pierrepont, one party trying upon the fact that the latter fell from his horse just before an engagement, and never did any fighting at all; while the other triumphantly asserts that Scott would not fight Jackson. The Democrats talk of the kindness of heart and private heroism of his candidates—the Whig boasts of the heroism of some beneficence of his towards the wounded soldier in Mexico. The Whig gets out a series of pictures of bloody fields and imminent death, in which all of Scott moves to and fro, conqueror and unconquerable. Forthwith the Democrat, in the columns of his monthly review, writes a series of caricatures, representing the conqueror in all sorts of grotesque, ridiculous, and degrading forms, calculated to awaken derision and contempt. And next follow investigations into the amount of money which each candidate has received from the Treasury, with a view to create the suspicion of extravagance, luxury, profligacy, and dishonesty; as few who read the schedule of expenses will take the trouble to inquire for what service the monies have been paid.

Could there be a more ignoble warfare? Would men resort to a mode of electioneering so insulting to popular intelligence, and so demoralizing, did they advocate admit of other arguments? Their conduct proves that there is no great political question in controversy between them.

Look now at the position and course of the Independent Democratic Organization. Its candidates and advocates resort to no such low expedients. They are not in the habit of indulging in personal abuse of their opponents, or mischievous misrepresentation, in appeals to groveling passion. That organization aims at objects affecting the interests and destinies of the country—the denationalization of Slavery, the placing of the Government, in the early and middle period, uniformly on the side of Liberty, the securing of the Public Domain to actual settlers, and a general diffusion and speculation, and the restoration of the power to the hands of the People wherever they have been deprived of it by the institution of intermediate bodies interposing between the elected and the electors. Neither of the old parties occupies its ground upon these subjects, and it therefore has a controversy with both. The controversy is a great one, involves great principles, and rises above mere partisanship and political trickery. There is no motive, there is no temptation to vituperation and misrepresentation. If the new Party succeed at all, it must succeed in virtue of its principles, on the

strength of the vast issues it presents to the People, and not by exaggerating the virtues of its candidates, or vilifying the character of their competitors.

**THE PRESIDENT AND THE PARDONING POWER.** The pardon extended to Drayton and Sayres by President Fillmore, is made the subject of bitter comment by the *Richmond (Va.) Examiner*. It says:

"Mr. Fillmore came into the Presidential mansion undeniably an Abolitionist. Since he has left there, his friends claim that he has become a Whig. We advise our friends who may be travelling this way, if they would reach Washington in one day from New York, to take the 6 o'clock train, and then the 9 o'clock train as a humpback.

### THE PHILOSOPHY OF DOUBLE-DEALING.

The Washington *Union*, in reference to our article about the circulation of documents says:

"The Democratic Committee has acted openly and honestly. All its documents are exposed to the public gaze. It has not spoken with a double tongue. It has not drawn two lines of color, and the one for the North and the other for the South. It has not been guilty of inconsistency, nor evasion, nor concealment. It has never made two statements in its General Program, which demands compensation for, we understand it rightly, is the signification of the Whig party, and foreshadows party divisions for years to come.

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**FEARFUL PROGRESS.**—The *Fredericksburg (Va.) Herald* seems alarmed at the signs of progress in the slave population. It says that the servants in the kitchen "teach their children to call their master instead of master, and that instead of addressing them in the terms heretofore known as father and mother among the blacks, require their children to call them pa and ma." The *Spartan*, of Spartanburg, South Carolina, sees in all this "a sign of the times" showing "conclusively that in this age of progress the negroes are making progress." It lays all the blame upon the "hateful Union."

"A Union of those who love and live by slavery, with those who hate and spurn it, yes, a Union of those who would fight for it, with those who would, and are now fighting against it! To it seems that the Union, so far from being desirable, has become the most abominable and abominable in the end, will prove fatal to the institution of slavery. We value slavery more than we do the Union." In choosing a free for our steel in the South, we have chosen a master. We prefer a Northern master to a negro. Viewing slavery, then, as we do—the very essence of our moral, physical, and civil life—and looking upon the Union as the hateful instrument of its moral overthrow, if not dissolved, we believe it would be the best interest of the South to dissolve their existing connection with the North."

Such fanaticism as this is not very prevalent in the South.

**THE SOUTHERN RIGHTS PARTY** of Alabama lately issued a South and West Circular to their constituents respecting their views. Slavery, &c. The framer replied that the only declaration of opinions he intended to make during the present canvass was that made in his letter accepting the Whig nomination. The latter answered not at all. Thereupon the Southern Rights men of that State called a Convention to meet the second Tuesday of this month, to determine their future course.

**THE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS** of Lorain county, Ohio, met in Convention at Elyria, on the 27th ult. Jonathan Brown, of Lagrange, was chosen Chairman, and eighteen Vice Presidents, and three Secretaries, were elected. Resolutions were adopted, endorsing the principles and ratifying the nominations of the Pittsburgh Convention, and Tuesday, 14th, was recommended as a suitable time, and Huronville, Medina county, as a proper place, for holding a District Convention, to nominate a candidate for Congress and a Presidential elector. The Convention was in high spirits, and proposed an immediate vote for Freedom. The *Independent Democrat* says:

"The gathering of the Free Men at Lorain, on Friday last, was a triumphant demonstration of the determined sentiment of our people to stand up for the right. With but a slight majority of votes, and but two thousand regular and independent men, we won the public square, and with full heart and will endorse the glorious principles of our platform, and pledged their unwavering support to the worthy men nominated upon it."

**THE TRAGEDY ON THE REINDEER.**—It is now ascertained that thirty-three persons lost their lives by the explosion on the Reindeer, and several of the scalped remain in a hopeless condition. The officers produce testimony to show that nobody was to blame. Of course not!

**CHOLERA IN BUFFALO.**—Statistics published in the Buffalo *Republic* show that during the month of August there were 388 deaths from cholera in that place.

**AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS.**—The circulation of American newspapers has been prohibited in Cuba.

**PROGRESS OF THE CHOLERA.**—On the 17th August, 402 cases of cholera occurred at Warsaw, Poland—207 of which proved fatal.

**THE NEW HAMPSHIRE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION** is to be held on Concord Thursday, 23rd instant, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

**METROPOLITAN MECHANICS INSTITUTE.**

The first regular monthly meeting of this association was held, pursuant to call, in the public papers, at the hall of the Smithsonian Institution, on Wednesday evening the 8th instant. One hundred and seventy members signed the constitution.

John W. Maury, Esq., was called to the chair, and H. Amidon appointed Secretary of the institute.

The Chair announced the object of the meeting to be the election of officers to serve until the annual meeting.

On motion of Mr. A. F. Cunningham, a committee of five was appointed to nominate suitable officers for the Institute.

The Chair appointed Messrs. Cunningham, Winter, Mohun, Hepburn, and Holday.

The committee, on motion, were instructed not to name any officers or directors.

The committee then retired, and, after a short absence, reported the following nominations:

For President—Joseph Henry.

For Vice Presidents—John C. Harkness, John W. Mohun, Lebon X. B. French.

For Corresponding Secretary—Charles F. Stansbury.

For Recording Secretary—Thomas M. O'Brien.

The Institutes then proceeded to ballot for officers, and the nominees of the committee were duly elected.

The officers elected came forward and took their seats on the platform.

On motion, it was resolved that the election of librarian and director be postponed to an adjourned meeting to be held on Wednesday evening, the 22d instant.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Cunningham:

Resolved, That the officers be instructed to take the initiatory measures, at as early a day as possible, for holding an "Exhibition of the Productions of American Skill and Industry" at the city of Washington, in the latter part of February next, the said exhibition to be open to competitors from all parts of the Union.

Mr. W. Winter, the President and Vice President, appointed a committee to wait upon the Secretary of the interior, and request the use of the new hall of the Patent Office for the proposed exhibition.

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LETTER FROM CINCINNATI.  
The Weather and Crop—Grace Culture—The Elections—Second of August—Celebration—Colored People of Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, August 31, 1852.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The first of this month we have had an unusually cool summer, and the heat of this city and vicinity, some of the nights having been quite cool. The month of July was as usual; but this I should judge by our feelings, as we have been the mildest August we have had for many years. Our citizens who have been at the fair at the fairground have a great pleasure for relaxation or health, are returning, and soon the bustle of the fall business will be here. Merchants from the country towns through the State will be here, and the crops in the field will pass away like summer clouds, and leave the sky of reform serene and bright.

is too late to suppress reform and reform is always brought about by agitation. At the time of the great reformation in Europe, the Reformation arose with increased strength at Geneva, and the people of that city, by their energy, and the energy of their cause. Each edict of power, drove greater numbers of her subjects to embrace the new doctrine, and greatly diminished her own power. So it has ever been in the progress of reform, so it ever will be. Each edict of the Slave Power, to enslave the South, to alight Slavery, and to rivet its chains tighter and tighter, though it may temporarily promise an interval, its expectation, will contribute to the final triumph of the South in the human mind. Truth and Right will triumph. Though temporary disappointments may cast shadows over our cause, they will pass away like summer clouds, and leave the sky of reform serene and bright.

A VOICE FROM MASSACHUSETTS.

WORCESTER, MASS., Aug. 31, 1852.

To the Editor of the National Era:

A word from the heart of the old Common-wealth, and a word for the people of the era. It was known that the first great movement was made in 1843; it is now the fires of freedom are burning still.

The Free Democratic party of Massachusetts never entered a convention, and now, as we have been told, a Convention here yesterday, and nominated a full county ticket. They also nominated L. A. Hine for Congress.

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